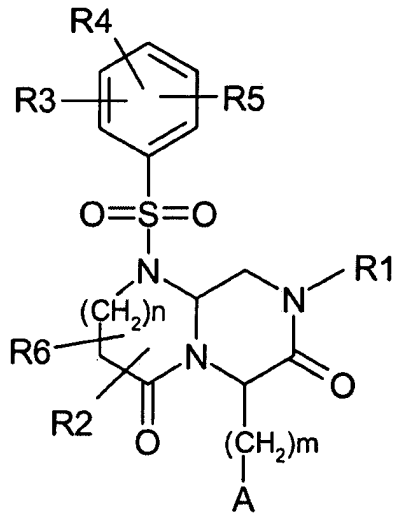
1 (currently amended). A compound of the formula I:



I

wherein

A is a 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7-, 8-, 9-, 10-, 11-, and 12-membered mono-, bi- or spirobicyclic ring containing one or more heteroatoms selected from the group of N, O and S, and is optionally substituted with F, Cl, Br, NO_2, CF_3, OCF_3, CN, $(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl, aryl, CON(R11)(R12), N(R13)(R14), OH, O-$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl, S-$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl, N(R15)CO$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl or COO-$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl;

R11, R12, R13, R14, R15 are each independently H, $(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl or a heterocycle;

n is [[0 or]] 1;

m is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6;

R1 is R8, $(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkylene-R8, $(C_2$-$C_6)$-alkenylene-R9, (SO_2)-R8, (SO_2)-$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkylene-R8, (SO_2)-$(C_2$-$C_6)$-alkenylene-R9, (C=O)-R8, (C=O)-$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkylene-R8, (C=O)NH-R8, (C=O)-$(C_2$-$C_6)$-alkenylene-R9, (C=O)-NH-$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkylene-R8, (C=O)-NH- $(C_2$-$C_6)$-alkenylene-R9, COO-R8, COO-$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkylene-R8, COO-$(C_2$-$C_6)$-alkenylene-R9, alkynylene-R9 or $(C_1$-C_4-alkyl)-heterocycle, wherein the alkylene component of said $(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkylene-R8, $(C_2$-$C_6)$-alkenylene-R9, (SO_2)-$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkylene-R8, (SO_2)-$(C_2$-$C_6)$-alkenylene-R9, (C=O)-$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkylene-R8, (C=O)-$(C_2$-$C_6)$-alkenylene-R9,

(C=O)-NH-(C_1-C_6)-alkylene-R8, (C=O)-NH- (C_2-C_6)-alkenylene-R9, COO-(C_1-C_6)-alkylene-R8, COO-(C_2-C_6)-alkenylene-R9 and alkynylene-R9 groups is optionally substituted by F;

R8, R9 are each independently H, F, Cl, Br, I, OH, CF_3, aryl, heterocycle or (C_3-C_8)-cycloalkyl, wherein said aryl, heterocycle and (C_3-C_8)-cycloalkyl groups are optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted by F, Cl, Br, I, OH, CF_3, NO_2, CN, OCF_3, O-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, (C_1-C_6)-alkyl, NH_2, CON(R11)(R12), N(R13)(R14), SO_2-CH_3, COOH, COO-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl or $CONH_2$;

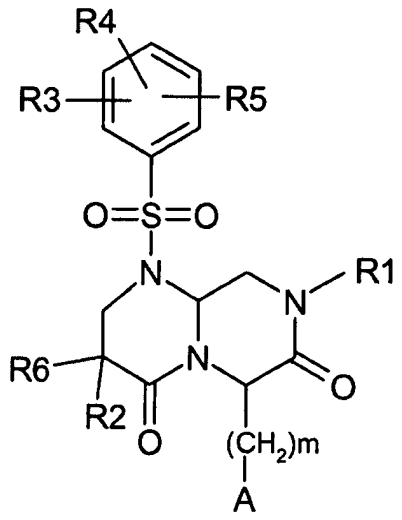
R2 is NH_2, NO_2, N(R13)(R14), NH-SO_2-CH_3, NH-SO_2-R12, NR11-SO_2-R12, N(CO)R11, NHCONR11, N(C_1-C_6-alkyl)N^+(C_1-C_4-alkyl)$_3$ or a nitrogen-containing heterocycle, wherein said heterocycle is bonded via a nitrogen atom;

R3, R4, R5 are each independently H, F, Cl, Br, I, OH, CF_3, NO_2, CN, OCF_3, O-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, O-(C_1-C_4)-alkoxy-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, S-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, (C_1-C_6)-alkyl, (C_2-C_6)-alkenyl, (C_3-C_8)-cycloalkyl, O-(C_3-C_8)-cycloalkyl, (C_3-C_8)-cycloalkenyl, O-(C_3-C_8)-cycloalkenyl, (C_2-C_6)-alkynyl, aryl, O-aryl (C_1-C_8)-alkylene-aryl, O-(C_1-C_8)-alkylene-aryl, S-aryl, N((C_1-C_6)-alkyl)$_2$, SO_2-CH_3, COOH, COO-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl or CO-N((C_1-C_6)-alkyl)$_2$;

R6 is H, F, Cl, Br, I, OH, CF_3, NO_2, CN, OCF_3, O-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, O-(C_1-C_4)-alkoxy-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, S-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, (C_1-C_6)-alkyl, (C_2-C_6)-alkenyl, (C_3-C_8)-cycloalkyl, O-(C_3-C_8)-cycloalkyl, (C_3-C_8)-cycloalkenyl, O-(C_3-C_8)-cycloalkenyl, (C_2-C_6)-alkynyl, (C_0-C_8)-alkylene-aryl, O-(C_0-C_8)-alkylene-aryl, S-aryl, N((C_1-C_6)-alkyl)$_2$, SO_2-CH_3, COOH, COO-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl or CO-N((C_1-C_6)-alkyl)$_2$;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

2 (original). The compound of Claim 1 having the following structure Ia



Ia

wherein

A is a 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7-, 8-, 9-, 10-, 11-, and 12-membered mono-, bi- or spirobicyclic ring containing one or more heteroatoms selected from the group of N, O and S, and is optionally substituted with F, Cl, Br, NO_2, CF_3, OCF_3, CN, $(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl, aryl, CON(R11)(R12), N(R13)(R14), OH, O-$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl, S-$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl, N(R15)CO$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl or COO-$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl;

R11, R12, R13, R14, R15 are each independently H, $(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl or a heterocycle;

m is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6;

R1 is R8, $(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkylene-R8, $(C_2$-$C_6)$-alkenylene-R9, (SO_2)-R8, (SO_2)-$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkylene-R8, (SO_2)-$(C_2$-$C_6)$-alkenylene-R9, (C=O)-R8, (C=O)-$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkylene-R8, (C=O)NH-R8, (C=O)-$(C_2$-$C_6)$-alkenylene-R9, (C=O)-NH-$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkylene-R8, (C=O)-NH- $(C_2$-$C_6)$-alkenylene-R9, COO-R8, COO-$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkylene-R8, COO-$(C_2$-$C_6)$-alkenylene-R9, alkynylene-R9 or $(C_1$-C_4-alkyl)-heterocycle;

R8, R9 are each independently H, F, Cl, Br, I, OH, CF_3, aryl, heterocycle or $(C_3$-$C_8)$-cycloalkyl, wherein said aryl, heterocycle and $(C_3$-$C_8)$-cycloalkyl groups are optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted by F, Cl, Br, I, OH, CF_3, NO_2, CN, OCF_3, O-$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl, $(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl, NH_2, CON(R11)(R12), N(R13)(R14), SO_2-CH_3, COOH, COO-$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl or $CONH_2$;

R2 is NH_2, NO_2, N(R13)(R14), NH-SO_2-CH_3, NH-SO_2-R12, NR11-SO_2-R12, N(CO)R11, NHCONR11, N(C_1-C_6-alkyl)N^+(C_1-C_4-alkyl)$_3$ or a nitrogen-containing heterocycle, wherein said heterocycle is bonded via a nitrogen atom;

R3, R4, R5 are each independently H, F, Cl, Br, I, OH, CF_3, NO_2, CN, OCF_3, O-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, O-(C_1-C_4)-alkoxy-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, S-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, (C_1-C_6)-alkyl, (C_2-C_6)-alkenyl, (C_3-C_8)-cycloalkyl, O-(C_3-C_8)-cycloalkyl, (C_3-C_8)-cycloalkenyl, O-(C_3-C_8)-cycloalkenyl, (C_2-C_6)-alkynyl, aryl, O-aryl (C_1-C_8)-alkylene-aryl, O-(C_1-C_8)-alkylene-aryl, S-aryl, N((C_1-C_6)-alkyl)$_2$, SO_2-CH_3, COOH, COO-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl or CO-N((C_1-C_6)-alkyl)$_2$;

R6 is H, F, Cl, Br, I, OH, CF_3, NO_2, CN, OCF_3, O-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, O-(C_1-C_4)-alkoxy-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, S-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, (C_1-C_6)-alkyl, (C_2-C_6)-alkenyl, (C_3-C_8)-cycloalkyl, O-(C_3-C_8)-cycloalkyl, (C_3-C_8)-cycloalkenyl, O-(C_3-C_8)-cycloalkenyl, (C_2-C_6)-alkynyl, aryl, O-aryl, (C_1-C_8)-alkylene-aryl, O-(C_1-C_8)-alkylene-aryl, S-aryl, N((C_1-C_6)-alkyl)$_2$, SO_2-CH_3, COOH, COO-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl or CO-N((C_1-C_6)-alkyl)$_2$;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

3 (original). The compound of Claim 2 wherein

A is aryl wherein said aryl is optionally substituted by F, Cl, Br, NO_2, CF_3, OCF_3, CN, (C_1-C_6)-alkyl, aryl, CON(R11)(R12), N(R13)(R14), OH, O-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, S-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, N(R15)CO(C_1-C_6)-alkyl or COO-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl;

R11, R12, R13, R14, R15 are each independently H, (C_1-C_6)-alkyl or heterocycle;

m is 1;

R1 is R8, (C_1-C_6)-alkylene-R8, (C_2-C_6)-alkenylene-R9, (SO_2)-R8, (SO_2)-(C_1-C_6)-alkylene-R8, (SO_2)-(C_2-C_6)-alkenylene-R9, (C=O)-R8, (C=O)-(C_1-C_6)-alkylene-R8, (C=O)NH-R8, (C=O)-(C_2-C_6)-alkenylene-R9, (C=O)-NH-(C_1-C_6)-alkylene-R8, (C=O)-NH-(C_2-C_6)-alkenylene-R9, COO-R8, COO-(C_1-C_6)-alkylene-R8, COO-(C_2-C_6)-alkenylene-R9, alkynylene-R9 or (C_1-C_4-alkyl)-heterocycle;

R8, R9 are each independently H, F, Cl, Br, I, OH, CF_3, aryl, heterocycle or $(C_3$-$C_8)$-cycloalkyl, wherein said aryl, heterocycle and $(C_3$-$C_8)$-cycloalkyl groups are optionally mono-, di-, or tri-substituted by F, Cl, Br, I, OH, CF_3, NO_2, CN, OCF_3, O-$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl, $(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl, NH_2, CON(R11)(R12), N(R13)(R14), SO_2-CH_3, COOH, COO-$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl or $CONH_2$;

R2 is NH_2, NO_2, N(R13)(R14), NH-SO_2-CH_3, NH-SO_2-R12, NR11-SO_2-R12, N(CO)R11, NHCONR11, N$(C_1$-C_6-alkyl$)N^+(C_1$-C_4-alkyl$)_3$ or a nitrogen-containing heterocycle, wherein said heterocycle is bonded via a nitrogen atom,

R3 is H

R4, R5 are each independently H, F, Cl, Br, OH, CF_3, OCF_3, O-$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl or $(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl;

R6 is H;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

4 (original). The compound of Claim 3 wherein

A is aryl, wherein said aryl group is optionally substituted by F, Cl, Br, NO_2, CF_3, OCF_3, CN, $(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl, aryl, CON(R11)(R12), N(R13)(R14), OH, O-$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl, S-$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl, N(R15)CO$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl or COO-$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl;

R11, R12, R13, R14, R15 are each independently H, $(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl or heterocycle;

m is 1;

R1 is $(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl or $(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkylene-R8;

R8, R9 are each independently F, Cl, Br, I, OH or CF_3;

R2 is NH_2, NO_2, CN, N(R13)(R14), NH-SO_2-CH_3, NH-SO_2-R12, NR11-SO_2-R12, N(CO)R11, NHCONR11, N(C_1-C_6-alkyl)N^+(C_1-C_4-alkyl)$_3$ or a nitrogen-containing heterocycle, wherein said heterocycle is bonded via a nitrogen atom,

R3 is H;

R4 is F, Cl, Br, OH, CF_3, OCF_3, O-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl or (C_1-C_6)-alkyl;

R5 is H, F, Cl, Br, OH, CF_3, OCF_3, O-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl or (C_1-C_6)-alkyl;

R6 is H;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

5 (original). A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

6 (canceled).

7 (canceled).

8 (canceled).

9 (original). A method of treating obesity comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a compound of Claim 1.

10 (canceled).

11 (canceled).

12 (canceled).

13 (original). A method of reducing weight in mammals comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a compound of Claim 1.

14 (canceled).

15 (canceled).